

NOTES ON SOME INJURIOUS AFRICAN RHYNCHOTA.

By W. L. DISTANT.

Family LYGAEIDAE.

Oxycarenus amygdali, sp. nov. (fig. 1).

Head, antennae, rostrum, pronotum, scutellum, body beneath and legs black; posterior lobe of pronotum, posterior angular areas of prosternum, and a sub-basal discal suffusion to abdomen beneath, dark sanguineous; intermediate and posterior tibiae broadly annulated with pale luteous; corium and membrane pale grey hyaline, a black spot at apical angle to corium; head shorter than pronotum; antennae with the first joints reaching apex of head, second longest thickened towards apex,

Fig. 1. *Oxycarenus amygdali*, sp. nov.

third and fourth subequal in length; pronotum with the lateral margins distinctly pilose, posterior lobe granulose, anterior lobe more coarsely so; membrane extending beyond the abdominal apex.

Length, 4-4½ mm.

TRANSVAAL: Amersfoort (Claude Fuller).

This species is reported as infesting the leaves of the peach. I have previously described another and somewhat allied species (*O. exitiosus*, Dist., "Entomologist," 1905, p. 169) from near Cape Town, which was also recorded as "injurious to peach." As there are now three allied species, the following synopsis may be useful:—

Pronotum with the anterior lobe black, the posterior lobe sanguineous:

Corium red; abdomen beneath sanguineous, the apex black. *O. annulipes*,
Germ.*

Corium red, the lateral margins lutescent; abdomen beneath sanguineous, the apex and lateral margins black. *O. exitiosus*, Dist.

Corium pale grey hyaline. *O. amygdali*, Dist.

Arocatus continctus, Dist. (fig. 2).

Arocatus continctus, Distant, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg., 1906, p. 410; Faun. Brit. Ind., Rhynch., v, p. 10 (1910).

* These characters are taken from Germar's description. I have not seen the species.

I originally described this species from specimens received from various localities in India and Ceylon. Dr. W. A. Lamborn has now brought it from Ibadan in Southern

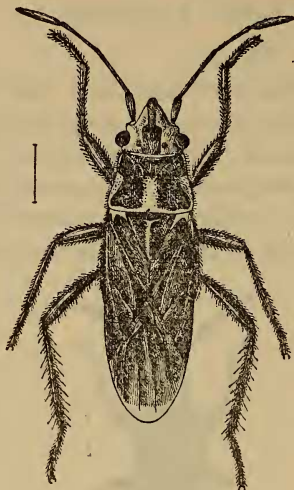


Fig. 2. *Arocatus continctus*, Dist.

Nigeria (see p. 213), where he found it feeding on *Funtumia* seeds (Apocynaceae). This rubber tree is well known to be a native of Tropical Africa and is cultivated in India and Ceylon.

Family FULGORIDAE.

Subfamily DELPHACINAE.



Fig. 3. *Pundaluoya simplicia*, Dist.

***Pundaluoya simplicia*, Dist. (fig. 3).**

Pundaluoya simplicia, Distant, Faun. Brit. Ind. Rhynch., iii, p. 468, fig. 255 (1906).

This species was originally described from a series of specimens sent to me by Mr. E. E. Green from Peradeniya, Ceylon. It has now been found by Dr. W. A. Lamborn breeding on the young shoots of kola and cacao at Ibadan in Southern Nigeria. It was also collected by Mr. Hugh Scott from "grass, etc., in cultivated places" during the Sladen Trust Expedition to the Seychelles on the islands of Mahé and Praslin.

Many of these Delphacids [are widely distributed, largely incidental to the dispersion of seeds and plants. Dr. S. Matsumura, who has recently (Ann. Mus. Nat. Hung., v, p. 56, 1907) monographed another genus, *Tripidocephala*, gives the localities for one species, *T. brunnipennis*, Sign., as Japan, Formosa, New Guinea, Queensland, Singapore, Malacca, Madagascar, Caffraria, Cape Colony and Egypt.